

SECRET

XX 8794

8-30-45

COPY

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

From: Capt. Auger

To: Lt. Col. Stimson

KALTENBRUNNER

With reference to B.I.W. (Mr. Ferguson's) Memoranda of 18.7.45. and 17.7.45. and W.R.C.3a (Mr. Ferguson's) Memoranda of 18.7.45., 20.7.45. and 26.7.45. KALTENBRUNNER has been interrogated on these points and has written a statement, of which the following is a summary:

"Rote Kapelle" (B.I.W's Memorandum dated 18.7.45)

1. The name "Rote Kapele" was given to a case of treachery which was discovered some time in the summer of 1942. KALTENBRUNNER knew of this case through hearsay only, since he did not come to Berlin until 1943. It consisted of a group of people, apparently some 20-30 strong, who were in contact with Russia. The organisation may have had its centre in the Berlin Air Ministry, but KALTENBRUNNER also heard of the activities of a White Russian in Paris. Military personalities as well as civilians belonged to this organisation. He cannot say, however, if it was chiefly military secrets which went to the enemy, or if political information was in the majority. Once, in 1943, in the Fuhrer's Chancellery, KALTENBRUNNER saw an elaborate report on the discovery of this organisation. It had been worked out mutually by the OKW-Abwehr and the State Police (Stapo) and contained photographs and a description of the activities of each member. In this connection he can remember two names: SCHELIHA and SARRE. He does not know any details regarding these persons. One of them, a member of the Air Ministry, was apparently willing to commit treachery against his country to the benefit of Russia because of his Communist outlook.

KAPKOW (B.I.W's Memorandum dated 17.7.45)

2. KALTENBRUNNER states that Sturmabfuhrer KOPKOW was engaged in counter-espionage. His chief task was tracking down enemy parachute agents equipped with W/T sets and discovering their contacts inside the Reich by "turning" the agents and thus getting into W/T contact with the enemy. It sometimes happened that German soldiers were dropped in this manner as Russian W/T agents. They declared on arrest that they had chosen this as a means of getting back to their country. The majority of them gave themselves up voluntarily on landing. An order was issued by HIMMLER, as chief of the Reserve Home Army (Ersatzheer), by which all such cases were to be reported to him. KALTENBRUNNER once saw a report of this type and thus came to know of KOPKOW's activities. He does not know any further details regarding KOPKOW's work.

With regard to AMPLETZER, KALTENBRUNNER states he knows nothing of this man.

Aktion BUNDSCHUH (W.R.C.3a's Memorandum dated 18.7.45.)

3. KALTENBRUNNER states that although various matters falling within the sphere of activity of Amts IV and VI were not reported to him, it is nevertheless impossible for a resistance organisation "Bundschuh" to have been set up within the framework of the RSHA. Outside the RSHA also, he has never heard the slightest reference to any organisation of the type of "Bundschuh".

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2004 2006

SECRET

SECRET

WAGNER (W.R.C. 3a's Memorandum dated 20.7.45)

4. (Additional information to Y.P. of 13.8.45). In one of his statements KALTENBRUNNER said that he considered it possible that the former Gauleiter WAGNER paid a visit to the King of the Belgians at the Castle of Laeken in Brussels. However, he knows nothing about this. He has never received nor forwarded any report about it.

According to his knowledge, WAGNER was simultaneously Gauleiter for Lower Silesia and a part (north or south) of Westphalia. When he was removed from his position as Gauleiter, he became Reichspreiskommissar (Reichs price controller) for a while, until he was dismissed by FISHBOECK from that post. WAGNER had the reputation of being a strict Catholic and closely connected with the Catholic movement in Westphalia. It was for this reason that KALTENBRUNNER said in his statement it might be possible he had tried for a link-up with Belgium. The Catholic circles in the Rhineland and Westphalia had definite separatist tendencies also, and always hoped, if Germany collapsed, or there were a reactionary change of regime, to establish a closer connection with the Catholic part of Belgium. He cannot say, however, if WAGNER played an active part in this matter.

WAGNER's name also cropped up in the affair of the 20th July, 1944. KALTENBRUNNER does not think that he was involved in it personally. However, HITLER's suspicions were aroused against WAGNER, because it so happened that several persons were involved in the matter who had formerly been attached to WAGNER's staff when he was Reichspreiskommissar, e.g. V. SCHULENBURG, Jnr.

It was rumoured that, on HITLER's orders, WAGNER had been placed in "honorary custody" (Ehrenhaft). However, KALTENBRUNNER heard among military circles that he had been released at his own request and sent to the front. In any case, no proof was ever produced against him.

Alois MIEDL (W.R.C. 3a's Memorandum dated 26.7.45)

5. KALTENBRUNNER does not know any person of this name. (See SCHELLENBERG's answer to this question forwarded under Y.P. dated 11.8.45.)

(signed)

A.S. Augsk

Camp 020
ASA/JMS
14.8.45.

SECRET